Under the first phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), six AIIMS-like institutions are being set up, one each in the backward States of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubaneshwar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh).

In addition, Cabinet has also approved the proposal in February, 2009 for setting up AIIMS-like institutions in the State of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, in the second phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana.

The location of the AIIMS-like institution in Uttar Pradesh is yet to be finalized.

Low percentage of women doctors

2367. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the total doctors posted in Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in our country, only 17.9 per cent are women;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the exact reasons for such low percentage; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the women percentage posted at PHCs in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Primary Health Centres (PHCs) are established and maintained by states under the Minimum Needs Programme and the human resource deployed at these centres is recruited/posted/transferred by the respective State Governments. As such, gender based disaggregated data of the doctors posted by various states at their Primary Health Centres is not available.

However, as per Rural Health Statistics as on March, 2007 3109 functioning PHC have female doctors.

Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) comprehensive rejuvenation of the public health delivery system has been undertaken. This *inter alia* includes rational posting of the health human resources at all PHCs in all the States including Andhra Pradesh.

Free medical facilities to BPL families

2368. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that BPL families are not in a position to bear the medical expenses particularly maternity in case of delivery due to surgery;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to take a decision in consultation with the State Governments to provide such medical facilities to BPL families free of cost; and